

WHAT TO KNOW, BEFORE YOU GO!

MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA 2022

IMPORTANT: PASSPORT NEEDED TO ENTER JAMAICA

- **Passports:** Make sure you have passports for every person in your family. Passports should be valid for the dates of your entry and exit.

All of these documents will be REQUIRED before you get on the plane at your Departure City. If you somehow make it to Jamaica without these documents, you will be sent home.

VACATION, VACATION, VACATION

When completing your Immigration documents, make sure that you state that your reason to visit Jamaica is "Vacation". Any other answer may generate unnecessary questions from Immigration.

JAMAICA CURRENCY

The Jamaica Currency fluctuates quite frequently. Currently, one US dollar \$1 = \$150.77 Jamaican dollars. Virtually all vendors will accept US dollars, but you will likely receive change in Jamaican dollars. For reference, if you see something priced at \$2,000 Jamaican, that is about \$13.27 USD. \$100 USD will get you approximately \$15,076.90 Jamaican dollars.

CREDIT CARD FOREIGN TRANSACTION FEES

First, let your Credit Card companies know that you are traveling to Jamaica to avoid them thinking that your transactions in Jamaica are suspicious. Next, many U.S. credit card companies/banks charge a foreign transaction fee (usually 3% of transaction amount) for purchases made in currency other than U.S. dollars. Check with your credit card company or bank to see what your fees will be.

JAMAICA—A SUNNY TROPICAL ISLAND (VERY HOT)

Jamaica is a beautiful tropical island with lush vegetation, swaying palms, beautiful flowers, and wide beaches. Enjoy it to the full. We don't want anything to detract from your enjoyment, so remember your **sunscreen** and **bug repellent** to keep away those less than desirable things that go along with a tropical environment. You can purchase these items at the hotel but they are *much more expensive*.

Daytime temperatures should be in the upper 80's/low 90's with tons of humidity. Hotel rooms, meeting hall and most restaurants are air-conditioned; the outdoor grill restaurants and bars are not.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS – PROVIDED BY JAMAICA TOURS LTD. (JTL)

The cost of the **Round-Trip Transfer is \$20 CASH per person** and is payable at the Feast site. To Reserve your Airport Transfer, email the following to newton@jamaicatoursltd.com

Subject Line of your email: **UCG – FOT 2022**

- The names of everyone in your party
- The Flight details for everyone (Carrier, Flight #, Date & Time of Arrival/Departure)

Payment will be made at Iberostar during the Feast.

Once you arrive at the airport you have to go through Immigration, collect your checked bags, and then you clear Customs. Next you walk through the double doors. Proceed to the back left corner of the room to **Desk 21**, or just ask someone where JTL has their desk. (You can use JTL even if you haven't made a reservation.)

IBEROSTAR INFORMATION

Electrical Outlets in Hotel Rooms

Hotel rooms are outfitted with U.S.-type 110 electrical outlets.

Dining and Amenities

The Iberostar all-inclusive resort offers all-inclusive service, with distinct restaurants depending on which Iberostar hotel you are staying at. Please note some restaurants require a reservation. For more information on what Iberostar offers, [download their App](#).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hymnals

We will be using PowerPoint to display the hymns; however, if you require a hymnal, you will need to bring your own personal copy.

Dress for Services

Dress for services is Sabbath-wear as is the custom in the US and Canada. For men who are speaking or song-leading, a suit or sports coat is appropriate; otherwise, slacks with a dress shirt and tie are fine.

Location for Services

All services, the Bible Study, and the Seminars will be held in the air conditioned Black River Theater in the Suites hotel. The Theater is on the ground floor in the East wing of Suites.

Sabbath Services Before the Feast

We are currently planning to have Sabbath Services in the Black River Theater on October 8 at 10:30 AM.

Opening Night Service

The opening service will take place Sunday, October 9, at 7:30 PM.

Holy Day Offerings

Holy Day offerings will be collected on the first and last days of the Feast. If you wish to support the work in Jamaica, you can make your Offerings with either Cash or Check. Checks should be made out to: **UCG Caribbean**. Your offering will help finance congregational expenses for our two Jamaica congregations for the rest of the year. Donations made in Jamaica will stay in Jamaica and there will be no receipt. We humbly ask you to invest in God's work in Jamaica.

If U.S. members traveling abroad want their Holy Day offerings to be included in their end-of-year donation receipt for tax purposes, they are encouraged to mail their offerings directly to the home office in Cincinnati, before or after the Feast. In this way, your contributions will be appropriately receipted and reported to the IRS, allowing you to take a tax deduction at year-end.

USE WISDOM AND STAY SAFE

Like every country, Jamaica has its fair share of crime. Overall, we will be located in a safe area, but please follow the same safety precautions you would follow in any other country. Some safety tips:

- Those under 13 should always be with an Adult and never go into anyone's hotel room who is unknown.
- Those 13 and older, should use the Buddy System to not be alone.
- Never leave the resort property alone.
- If approached with dubious offers, utter a polite but firm "no-thank you:" without stopping or slowing down. Ignore catcalls; keep walking briskly and with purpose.
- Stick to public areas, out in the open where you can be seen by many people.
- Never go off with any unfamiliar person outside of our group—especially alone.